

Message Text

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21

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /056 W

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R 100641Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 958

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 6265

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SA, IN, PK

SUBJ: INDIAN SPECIAL ENVOY TO SAUDI ARABIA

REF: JIDDS 4924

1. WE ARE INTRIGUED BY REFTEL REPORT THAT INDIAN EMBASSY AT JIDDA IS PASSING WORD THAT SPECIAL PURPOSE OF GOI ENVOY WAS TO COUNTER RECENT PAK PROPAGANDA ALLEGING INDIA WAS ABOUT TO ENGAGE IN AGGRESSION AGAINST PAKISTAN IN ORDER TO DIVERT THE INDIAN PEOPLE FROM DOMESTIC DIFFICULTIES.

2. AS DEPARTMENT AND NEW DELHI ARE AWARE, PRIMIN BHUTTO DID CHARGE ON JUNE 15 THAT "WE HAVE TO BE WATCHFUL LEST MRS. INDIRA GANDHI, BEDVILLED AND BEWILDERED BY THE PRESENT CRISIS, SEEKS TO EXTRICATE HERSELF FROM THIS MESS BY EMBARKING ON AN ADVENTUROUS COURSE AGAINST PAKISTAN". STATEMENT, WHICH WAS IN REACTION TO ALLEGED GANDHI REMARK THAT RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN INDIA HAD BROUGHT "THE GREATEST HAPPINESS TO PAKISTAN," WAS PICKED UP BY THE MEDIA AND POSSIBILITY OF INDIAN STROKE WAS SUBJECT OF NUMBER OF EDITORIALS AND COMMENTARIES IN ENSUING WEEK.

3. ALL OF THIS OCCURRED BEFORE INDIAN EMERGENCY
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PROCLAMATION OF JUNE 26. SINCE THAT TIME, GOP HAS

BEEN EXTREMELY CIRCUMSPECT IN ITS HANDLING OF INDIAN DEVELOPMENTS, MAINTAINING STRICT OFFICIAL SILENCE AND DISCOURAGING MEDIA COMMENT. ISSUE OF POSSIBLE EFFECT DEVELOPMENTS MAY HAVE ON PAKISTAN HAS EVIDENTLY BEEN HANDLED WITH PARTICULAR CARE AND TO OUR KNOWLEDGE THIS SUBJECT HAS NOT BEEN DEALT WITH IN PUBLIC PRINT DURING POST-JUNE 26 PHASE OF INDIAN CRISIS. EMBASSY NEW DELHI HAS REPORTED THAT GOP STANCE HAS BEEN SOURCE OF GRATIFICATION AT INDIAN MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

4. IN LIGHT THIS BACKGROUND, WE'D BE INTERESTED IN ANYTHING FURTHER EMBASSY JIDDA MAY PICK UP ABOUT SHANAWAZ KHAN'S ACTIVITIES.
LUPPI

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